

In the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Insertion~~ An insertion instrument for a multi-part intervertebral endoprosthesis ~~[[9]]~~ which comprises comprising:

two closure plates ~~[[91, 92]]~~ and a sliding core ~~[[93]]~~ arranged between ~~these said~~ the closure plates,

an insertion instrument ~~having~~ comprising a handgrip part ~~[[21, 31]]~~, gripping members which hold the closure plates between them~~[[,]]~~ a hinge, and a force-receiving part for applying an insertion force to the intervertebral endoprosthesis ~~[[9]]~~, ~~characterized in that the gripping members are guided movably toward and away from one another via a hinge (4) and are able to be tensioned against the intervertebral endoprosthesis (9);~~ projections ~~[[51, 52]]~~ pointing in the a tensioning direction ~~[[12]]~~ or recesses for holding the intervertebral endoprosthesis ~~[[9]]~~ with a form-fit ~~are~~ formed on the gripping members, and a block ~~[[61]]~~ guided in the longitudinal axis direction ~~[[10]]~~ and provided with an abutment surface ~~(62) is provided which can be moved~~ configured to be movable by means of an actuating device ~~[[7]]~~ so as to bear on the intervertebral endoprosthesis ~~[[9]]~~ and, in ~~its~~ a forward position, ~~secures so as to secure~~ the intervertebral endoprosthesis ~~[[9]]~~ against the projections ~~[[51 52]]~~ or recesses,

wherein the gripping members are configured to be guided movably toward and away from one another via the hinge and to be tensioned against the intervertebral endoprosthesis.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Insertion~~ The insertion instrument according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the insertion instrument is designed as a forceps ~~(4)~~, whose jaw parts ~~[[22, 32]]~~ form the gripping parts.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Insertion~~ The insertion instrument according to ~~Claim~~ claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the actuating device ~~[[7]]~~ is a rod ~~[[71]]~~ with a handle ~~[[72]]~~ arranged in the rear area of the handgrip part ~~[[21]]~~.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Insertion~~ The insertion instrument according to ~~Claim~~ claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the rod ~~[[71]]~~ is provided with a screw thread ~~[[73]]~~ and is guided in a ~~counterthread~~ counter thread which is fixed on the instrument and arranged

preferably in the hinge [(4)].

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Insertion~~ The insertion instrument according to ~~one of Claims 2 to 4~~ claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the actuating device [(7)] is guided through the hinge [(4)].

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Insertion~~ The insertion instrument according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the handle [(72)] is designed as a strike head [(76)].

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Insertion~~ The insertion instrument according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising a locking device [(8)] is provided for securing the handgrip parts [(21, 31)] in the position when pressed together, ~~said the~~ locking device [(8)] having a guide [(85)] for the actuating device [(7)].

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Insertion~~ The insertion instrument according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the projections [(51, 52)] are arranged on jaw inserts [(53)] which are fastened releasably on the jaw parts [(22, 32)].

9. (New) The insertion instrument according to claim 7, wherein the actuating device is a rod with a handle arranged in the rear area of the handgrip part.

10. (New) The insertion instrument according to claim 8, wherein the actuating device is a rod with a handle arranged in the rear area of the handgrip part.

11. (New) The insertion instrument according to claim 4, further comprising a locking device provided for securing the handgrip parts in the position when pressed together, the locking device having a guide for the actuating device.

12. (New) The insertion instrument according to claim 8, further comprising a locking device provided for securing the handgrip parts in the position when pressed together, the locking device having a guide for the actuating device.